

POSTSCRIPT

To *Abuses, &c. obviated.*

BEING a Short and Modest Answer
to Matters of Fact maliciously
misrepresented in a late Doggrel
DIALOGUE.

BURLESQUE is a kind of continued Irony representing the lowest abject Persons as *Heroes*, and on the contrary depressing Characters of Distinction. How kindly then should the Reverend *Ministers* and Mr. *Boylston* nam'd at length in a late *Dialogue*, take it of these inconsiderate Authors, who in this their *doggrel Performance* make them the *Heroes* of the Farce? They must impute it to their Ignorance of the Nature of a *burlesque Satyr*.

Publick Ridiculing the Dialect of the *Northern Parts of Great Britain*, by comparing it to a silly *Fargon* of their own contriving, is no Reflection on the Person they seem to write against; he writes and speaks as the *Town* generally do: But it is an Aspersion on part of our *Mother Country*. *Publick Reflections* on a *Country* are not to be answered by publick or private counter Reflections on the *Authors Country*; it would be base, unmannerly and unbecoming a Gentleman: The Love and respect I bear to this *Country* renders me incapable of so vile a thought. The Characters of *Countries* are Edge-Tools not to be play'd withal, they who in a publick notorious manner are guilty of such Things, are generally for ever and at any Rate the Objects of the highest Resentments of every native of the *Country* so abused and vilify'd.

A

Calumny

Calumny and Scurrility foreign to Matters of Fact, are undervalued; they only reflect on their Authors, and generally take off the Edge and Force of their Performance. *Your Physick is not good. Who would take of your Physick?* I am sure I would not, and such like childish weak low Passages, require no Answer, What was formerly obviated in some late Papers is generally passed over. In short, the whole should have been neglected, if Matter of Fact were not in an egregious Manner belyed, they well knowing that Men dont care to turn back to the late temporary Books to find the Truth of Cases now forgot. Without giving the Characters of the reputed Authors, or making Animadversions of any kind, I shall confine my self to Matter of Fact, and in as few words as possible.

I shall not depreciate the general word *Academicus*, nor by using of it reflect on *Harvard College*, I wish it may flourish and prosper; but instead thereof, to the particular things advanced in the *Dialogue* I shall prefix these imaginary Letters, D. C. M. and then subjoin nothing but Matter of Fact in answer to them.

D. C. M. 'It was it's being by your selves (and many others) reckon'd a Case or Matter of Conscience, that made us write, else perhaps we would never have troubled you.

Does this excuse your writing practically on a *Medical* Subject; or alleviate the vilest *Scurrilities* that ever before appear'd in Print.

D.C.M. "It's a design of destroying the Religion of the Country, by employing some of the Physicians as *Tools* to their accursed purpose.

A groundless Clamour. We know of no such Design; Our *Practitioners* you have found by experience, are not to be used as *Tools*.

D.C.M. "Dr. Mather did not send Circular Letters to all the Practitioners in Town, there were some (less noted) he had no thoughts of. He desired a second Person might communicate them to the Owner of the Originals.

It is accordingly said only the noted *Practitioners*. If he had been candid, he would have sent directly to the owner.

owner of these *Communications*, or rather would have discoursed the matter Personally with him, as in former Times he has done on more trivial Occasions.

D.C.M. " Dr. *Mather's* Circular Letter says, I move " it be warily proceeded in. — Let the Body be wisely prepar'd. — Let there be a Consultation. — " Whoever begins it, let him have the countenance of " his Brethren,

This Conclusion of his Circular Letter is unluckily brought upon the Stage; His Actions have bely'd his Words. I appeal to the Town, was there a previous Consultation, before it was attempted? and when a Consultation was appointed by the *Justices* and *Select Men*, did not this Man particularly, in contradiction to the unanimous Opinion of the *Practitioners*, push it on more violently than before? Had *B——n* the concurrence of his Brethren? Do they always prepare the Bodies of their Patients?

D.C.M. " A Divine who perhaps has read more in " Physick, than any of you.

What Volumes of *Physick* and the *Mathematicks* he may have swallow'd down, without chewing, I cannot say; but I know so much of his Constitution, he is naturally troubled with indigestion.

D.C.M. " You said formerly, he was a Learned Man " of Pious and Charitable Designs; now you say he is " a Man of Whim, Credulity and Vanity; these are inconsistent.

I knock under, I acknowledge my former mistake, as do many more in this Town.

D.C.M. " To say the People were cautious, is the " same as to say the prudent were cautious at first in " the practice; because the General includes all particulars.

We all know that the People of Boston in general were at first against *Inoculation*, therefore Dr. *Mather* was against it; would be a false way of Reasoning, a meer School-boy Quibble. Before *Timonius* wrote, several in *Constantinople*, had been *Inoculated*, therefore the Word People in both Cases are of the same kind of *Universality*.

D.C.M. " I own it is said the Turks do not much " come

" come into it, instead of the Turks do not yet come
 " into it. I cannot tell how it happened so in the Press,
 " it is only the Word *much* for *yet*.

This Error (if of the Press) is of such Consequence,
 as to have required a publick Correction in some Weekly
 Paper.

D.C.M. "*Funesti* is Translated *ill Consequence* instead
 " of *Mortal*, because he does not pretend to a precise
 " Translation, but only an Abstract.

The word *mortal* the true precise Translation, is shorter
 than the designedly false Translation *ill Consequence*,
 and therefore would, even according to this way of rea-
 soning, better suited an Abstract.

D.C.M. " He does not omit Timonius saying it was
 " practiced when half the Infected dyed.

It is true; but he omits Pylarinus's (the latest Au-
 thor) Words to the same purpose.

D.C.M. " His omitting some passages in Timonius
 " which seem to insinuate that Inoculation is not al-
 " ways favourable, is because he was writing an abstract
 " not a long Original.

His abstracting a short Abstract (we lately see it here
 Reprinted, is it a long Original?) and omitting passa-
 ges of Consequence, will not bear this Excuse, thus
 any Man may make *de quolibet, quidlibet*.

D.C.M. "*Timonius* does not say that Inoculation was
 " the Means of the Deaths of these two valetudinary
 " Children.

The Words of Dr. Woodward's Abstract of *Timonius*
 are, *Nor do I think it proper to be attempted on Persons*
like to dye. (Let our Inoculators reconcile this with the
 Solutions they design to give us of the inoculated
 Deaths in this Place, and their own regular Procedure.)
Some more quick Sighted imagined these two Children were
as useless Shades, sent to Charon by any Means that could
be made use of, Does not this intimate, that Inocula-
 tion was this very Means.

D. C. M. " The Reason why the Owner would not
 " reprint these Pieces on Inoculation, was (since no other
 " Copy could come into the Country,) that he might pass
 " undetected.

This supposes we have no Communication with London, or that the Owner was about to leave the Country before he did see himself detected; on the contrary, Mr. Campbell tells us he had a Copy Five Months ago, and the owner is a settled Inhabitant in the Place.

D. C. M. " If your reprinting of it were wicked, Dr. Halley and the Royal Society are guilty of Wickedness.

If the Author ever perused the *Philosophical Transactions*, he may find there many things never designed by them for Practice, (v. g. Dr. Lower's Transfusion of the Blood) constantly published by Way of Amusement. We find in Fact in this very Case, that *Timonius* has been by them published Seven Years, and no Thoughts of bringing it into Practice, until some Months ago that Dr. Maitland proposed it might be try'd on *condemned Criminals*. But to encourage a headlong Procedure, in a Practice novel and dubious to us at this Juncture, especially when the Owner of the Communication was not in himself convinced of its evident Utility and Safety; I think it *Wickedness*.

D. C. M. " You lye in saying the Winter Season is " the only Season recommended by the Constantinople " Inoculators.

Pylarinus (the latest Author) his own Words are, *Tempus secundum Operaticem hibernum desideratur, et non nisi tali tempore ipsa institionem instituebat*. The Operatrix required, and perform'd it only in the Winter Season. It's true, he conjectures the Spring may do, not having it seems used that Season.

D. C. M. " If you say some *Africans* who told they " had been Inoculated, have now had the Small Pox in " the common Way, you may say any thing.

I appeal to the Town, if some Negroes, who in Confidence of having had the Small Pox formerly by Inoculation, did attend the Sick, were not taken ill of the Small Pox and dy'd; the last Instance I think was not long ago at *Marblehead*.

D. C. M. " A silly Story or Conversation between two " Blacks and two of the Promoters. Where are these " Books? You certainly see double. O Iron!

Vide *Some Account*, &c. p. 9. Mr. Colman p. 15. says,
The

The pleasing and informing Discourse I had with a Poor Negro,

D. C. M. "The first Communication of it to the Learned in *England*, was from Dr. *Timonius* about Six or Seven Years ago, and not Twenty Years known in *England*. Thou wast lying for a Wager.

I can adduce Persons in this Town who when in *England* more than Seven Years ago, heard of it there. I appeal home to Multitudes, particularly to *Bellini's* (who has been dead many Years) Letter to *Pitcairn*, concerning this Practice when it first spread in *Italy*.

D. C. M. "It is Matter of Fact, that last Summer it was approved of in *England*, and practised with Success there, because we had it so in one of the London Prints.

He uses the Argument of the silly Country Fellow, *It must be true, because I see it in Print*. Was it in the *Gazette*? We all know, that any flying Report, if surprising, is immediately printed in *London*, by some of the common *News-Writers*. How does the Words *inoculated Incognito* (the last News we had of this Practice) suit with an approved Practice; but this our busy Inoculator was sufficiently aware of; he candidly and advisedly left out *incognito* when he sent this News to the Press. It's true all Europe may be inoculated by this Time for any thing we know, but this Story related only to some Months ago.

D. C. M. "Spell *Philosophy*, and construe *Hades*.

I suppose he Designs to be witty upon *Couranto*. *Couranto* can answer for himself.

D. C. M. "Dr. C. *Mather* scorns to lose Time to meddle with you: He scorns to answer what is wrote against him.

This Assertion is not consistent with his innate Itch of Writing. Most in Town are convinced, partly from his own Confession, and other good Evidences, that he has had a Hand in the late Calumnys.

D. C. M. "You don't like the whining Preaching of Mr. C—— and C——.

We all know they don't whine: If he did not like them, he is under no obligation to be their constant hearer.

hearer. Their names suffer by being breath'd upon by this infecting malignant Mouth; they abhor such vile ungentlemanly usage.

D. C. M. "*Fus et Nefos*, should have been corrected " in the Press, *fas et Nefas*.

The Publick are obliged to you for this Sublime Piece of Criticism.

D.C.M. "Every Body but the Author (who here betrays his Ignorance in the Chronology of Physick) " knows that Dr. Sydenham's writings were published " more than Forty Three Years ago.

This Man is void of Shame. Dr. Sydenham's Letter to Dr. Brady *de morbis Epidemicis ab A. 1675 to 1680* is dated 30th Dec. 1679. His Letter to Dr. Cole, *de Variolis confluentibus et affectione Hysterica* bears date 17th Nov. 1681. His Piece *de Febre putrida Variolis confluentibus Superveniente* was finished 29th Sept. 1686.

D.C.M. "The Evidences of the Ill Consequences, &c. " of Inoculation are only that, They heard a Man say, " that somebody told him, that he heard a Report.

Vide News Letter, 24th July 1721. M. Dal'Honde's Deposition is from his own Personal Knowledge.

D.C.M. "In England it is a very common thing to " carry Children into the infected Chambers, on purpose " to give them the Small Pox.

Some few do, but it is not a Practice justify'd there; grown Persons are never thus exposed, neither Women with Child.

D.C.M. "Thou art a Murderer (if felonious) because " you have privately declar'd so often in Favour of it; " and positively said you could pass no positive Judgment on the Practice.

He never said so much privately in favour of it, as he candidly published p. 20. viz. "That Inoculation is frequently more favourable, and not altogether so mortal; not one of the Inoculated, so far as we know, in the Space of Five or Six Months has had the *Small Pox* in the natural Way". When a Man is not positive of a Practice, it is natural and consistent for him to be cautious in the rash and indiscreet Use of it.

D. C. M. "You ridicule the Magistrates and Ministers Inoculators.

This is obviated in *Abuses &c. obviated*, p. 4.

D. C. M. "Infection was never communicated by their running Incisions.

I appeal to the Town,

D. C. M.

D. C. M. "Thou art thankful to God for the late Deaths of
"the Inoculated.

It is only said, *That the late Deaths of several Inoculated, has put a Stop to their career in spreading Infection*, is acknowledged a merciful and remarkable Providence at that time, in the severest Season, when many Country Towns were like to have been perswaded into the Practice, to the depopulating the Province.

D. C. M. "Of several who have dy'd while under Inoculation, not one truly dy'd of it.

I appeal to the Town in an absolute Sense; and to themselves, how they can reconcile their inoculating People as they say, otherways a dying with their not being guilty of a rash Procedure: Who but Madmen would unadvisedly discredit the Practice by using it on such Subjects?

D. C. M. "It has been so universally Successful, that none but
"such as are ignorant and malicious, as you are, have question'd it.

That is, most of our *Justices, Select-Men, &c.* and Twenty to One all over *New-England*, are ignorant, malicious, and every thing else said of you in the friendly Debate.

D. C. M. "You learnedly propose, That Inoculation may be
"ordered by Act of Parliament as a Succedaneum to the Small
"Pox, to purify the Blood from the remaining Pœculency.

This is a Sample of his *Candor* in Quotations. P. 14. it is said that an Act of Parliament can only (in my Opinion) allow of such a Practice; and p. 20, If there be any ill Consequences, & if they may be managed by carrying off the remaining Pœculency by some Medicinal Course, as Salivation, &c. it may be an adequate Succedaneum to the Small Pox. As to what relates to Oyl of Tobacco, &c. I refer to *Redi* and others who have wrote on Poysons.

D. C. M. "Consider Dr. *Harris* abstracted as a Voucher.
Vide *Abuses &c. obviated* p. 10.

D. C. M. "I insinuate (p. 21.) that the Select Men are Patrons
"of the Abuses on the Ministers and sacred Scriptures.

This is using the Guardians of the Town very ill. This is outrageous Malice.

D. C. M. "*Ubi duo Medici, ibi tres Athei.*

That is in broad English, three Halfs of our Physicians are wicked Men; this is a learned Blunder, tho' not the greatest of many in this low, mean Book, not worth while to repeat and quibble about.

May D. C. M. when he writes or causes to write, forbear Scurrilities; they are a Scandal to his Profession, and hurt his Argument. Let him keep close to Matter of Fact; railing is not reasoning in this Country.

N. B. Dr. C. M. — says, in express Words, of the Doggrel Dialogue, *That the Authors of it are such as a Conscience of Truth stirred up in THIS WAY* (that is with the vilest national and personal Scurrilities) to vindicate &c. FINIS.